

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

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Introduction to GIS

**Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est.
(Knowledge is power.)
Sir Francis Bacon**

Introduction to GIS

GIS is:

Powerful information...

easily accessed...

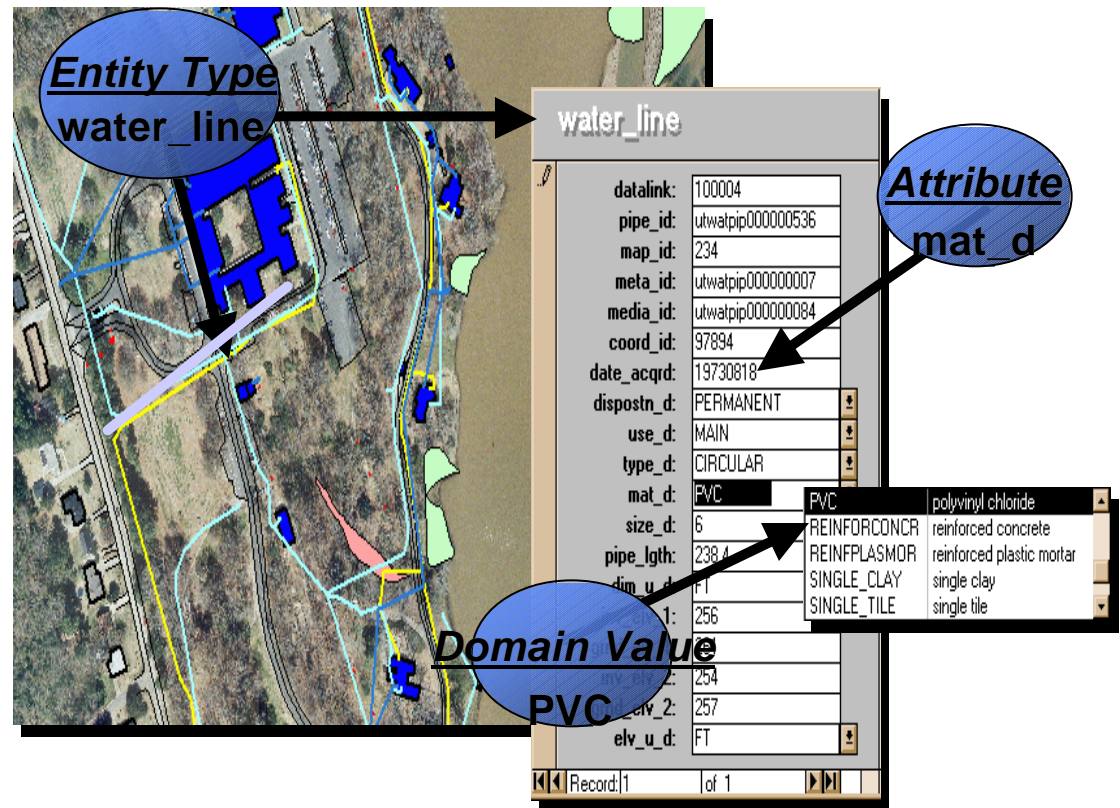
for effective installation management



Introduction to GIS

It's

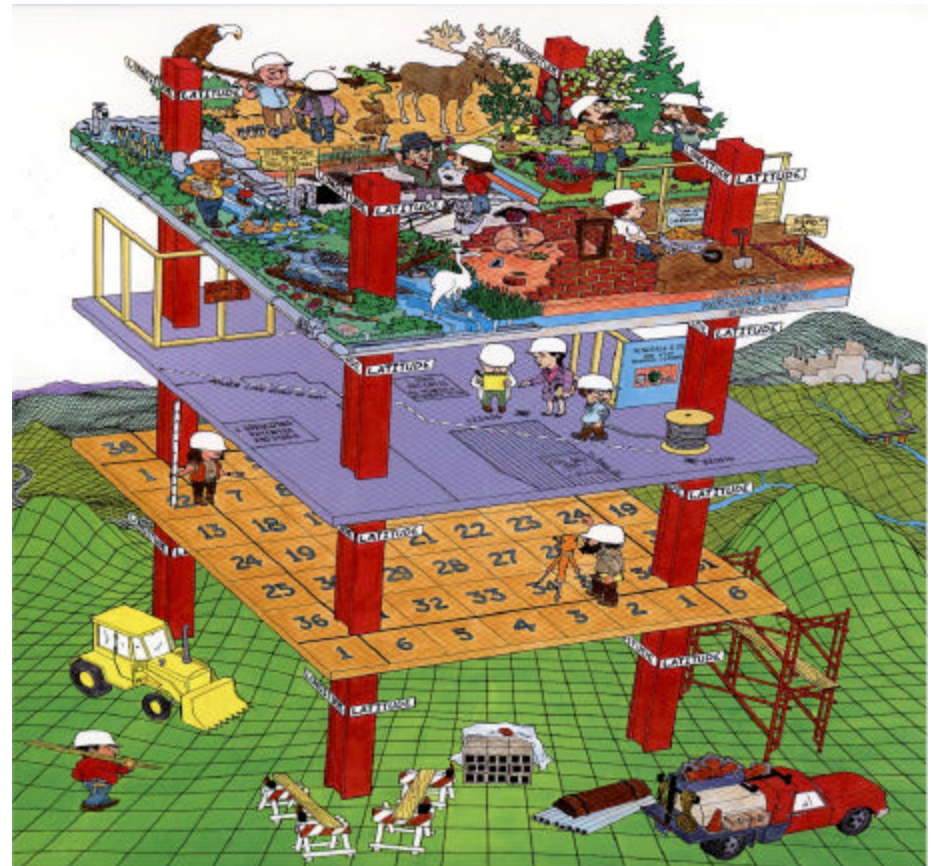
A method of storing,
accessing and viewing
information about
your installation or
project



Introduction to GIS

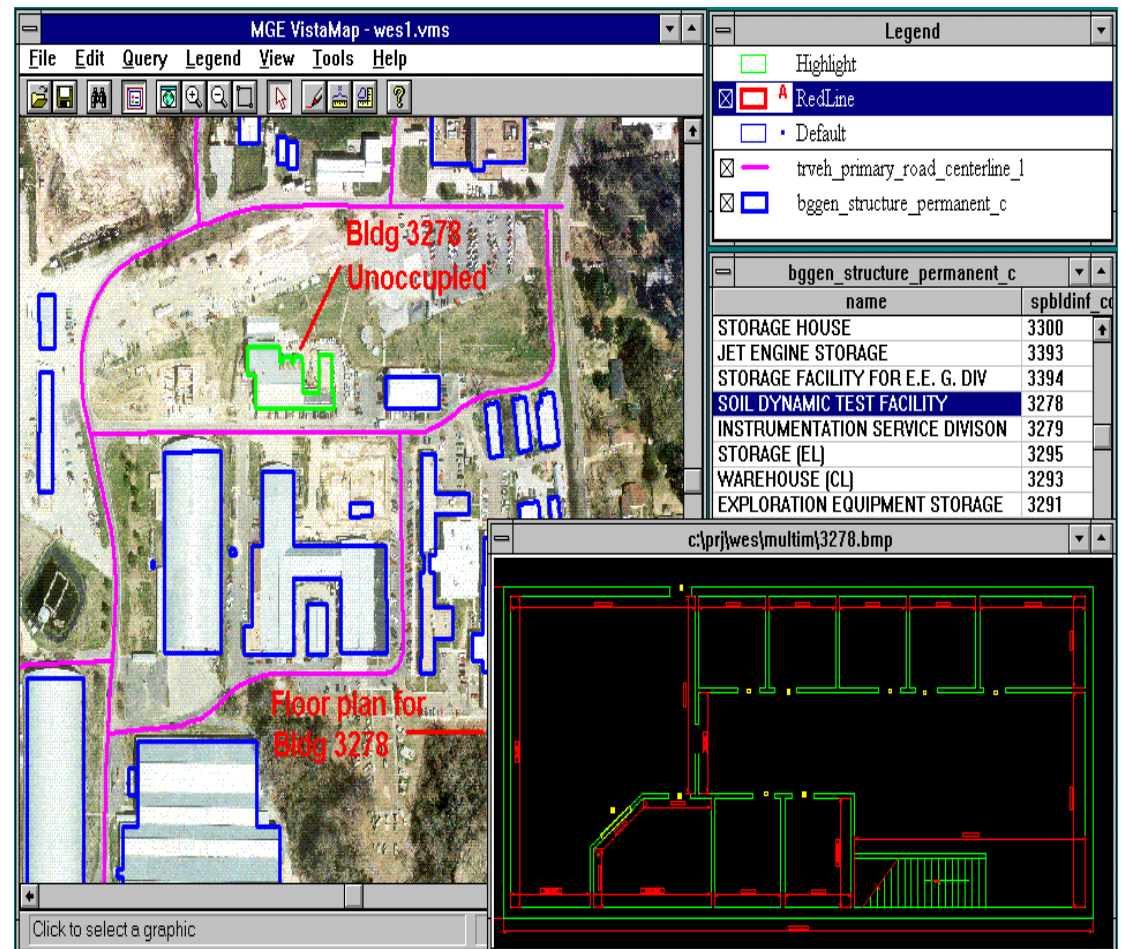
That allows you to:

Reference information
spatially



Introduction to GIS

View information
graphically



Share information
with others



Introduction to GIS

To make sense of the
swirl of information...



that is today's defense
environment



What is GIS?

Definition of GIS:

*An integrated computer **system** capable of capturing, storing, retrieving, analyzing, and displaying geospatial **information** that provides the user with knowledge of locational information about your installation, project, or objective.*

What is GIS?

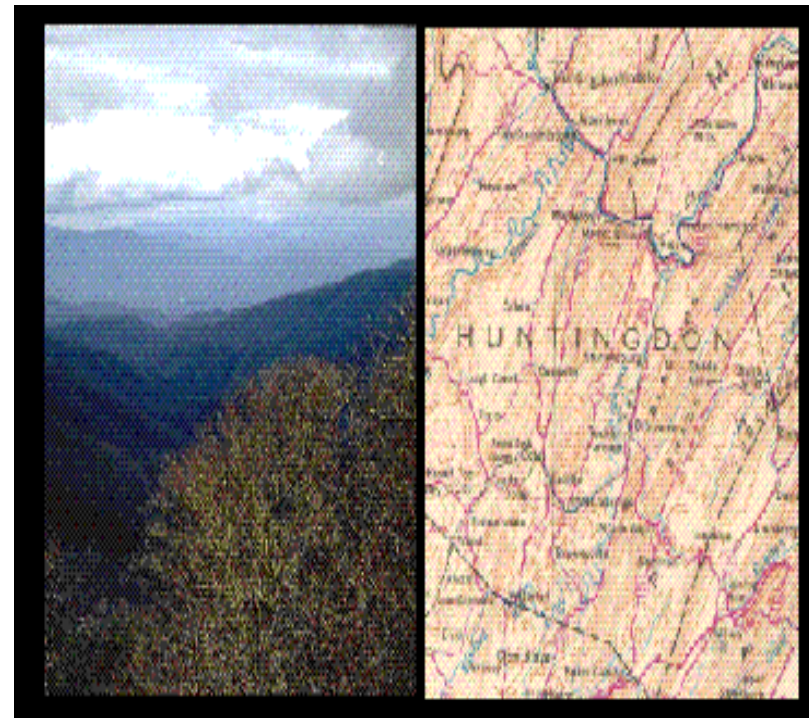
GIS is a decision-making tool that produces useful information in a cost effective manner

Key Element of GIS

The ability of a GIS to analyze spatial data is frequently seen as a key element in its definition, and has often been used as a characteristic which distinguishes the GIS from systems whose primary objective is map production.'

Map Graphic

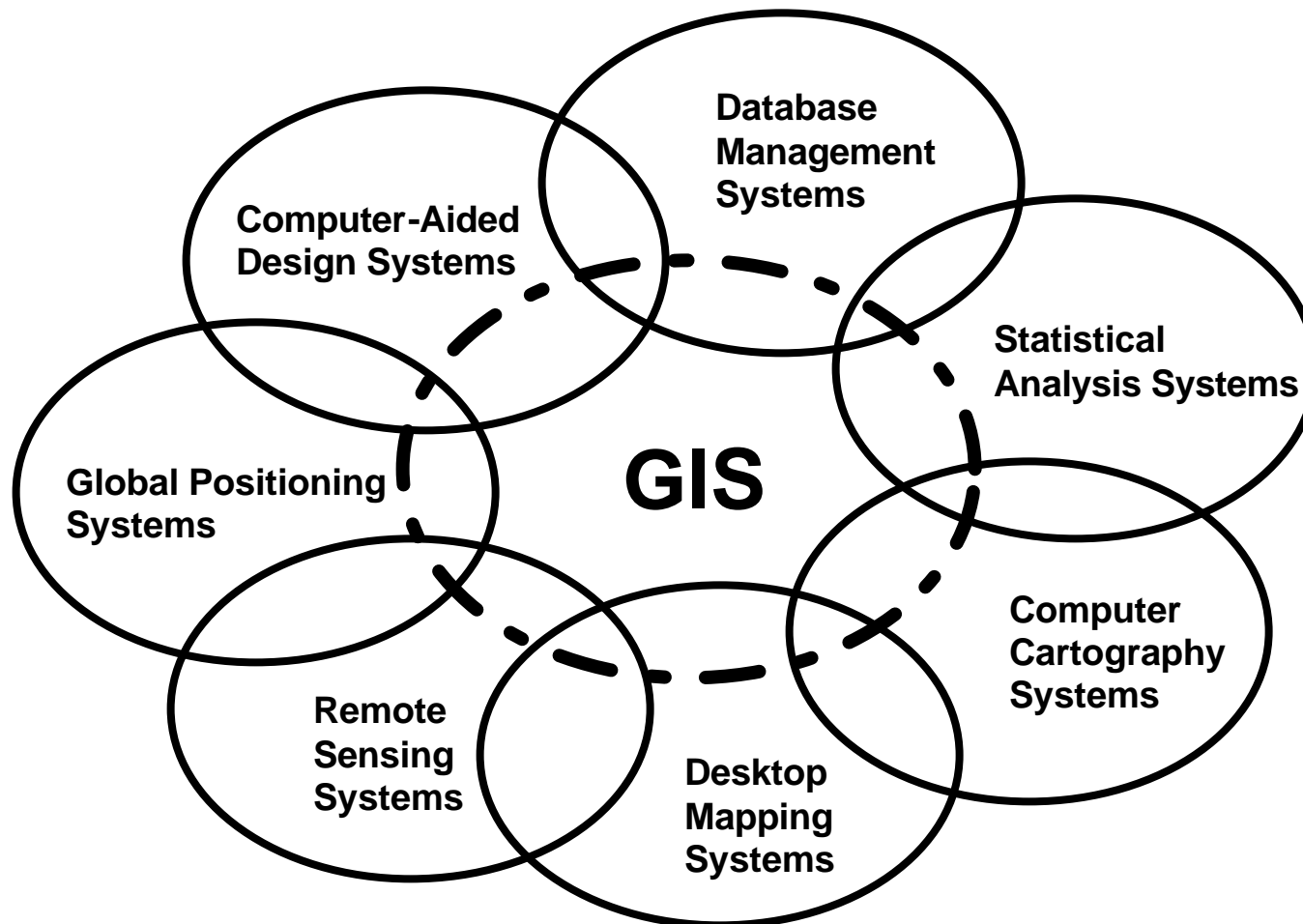
- Maps are symbolic abstractions--
"generalizations" or
"representations"--of
reality



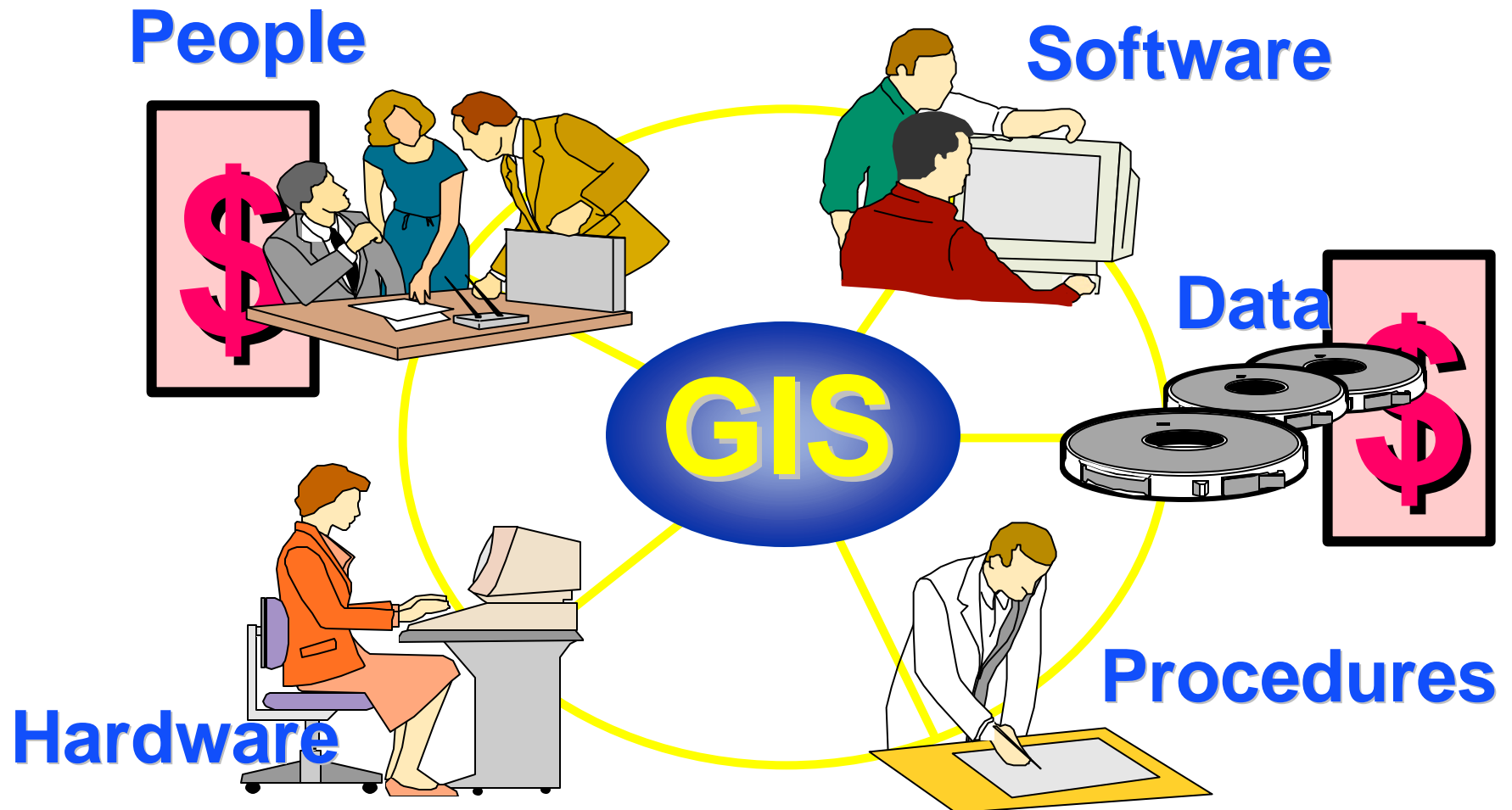
Spatial Analysis

Spatial analysis is that set of analytical methods which requires access to both the attributes of the object under study and to their locational information.

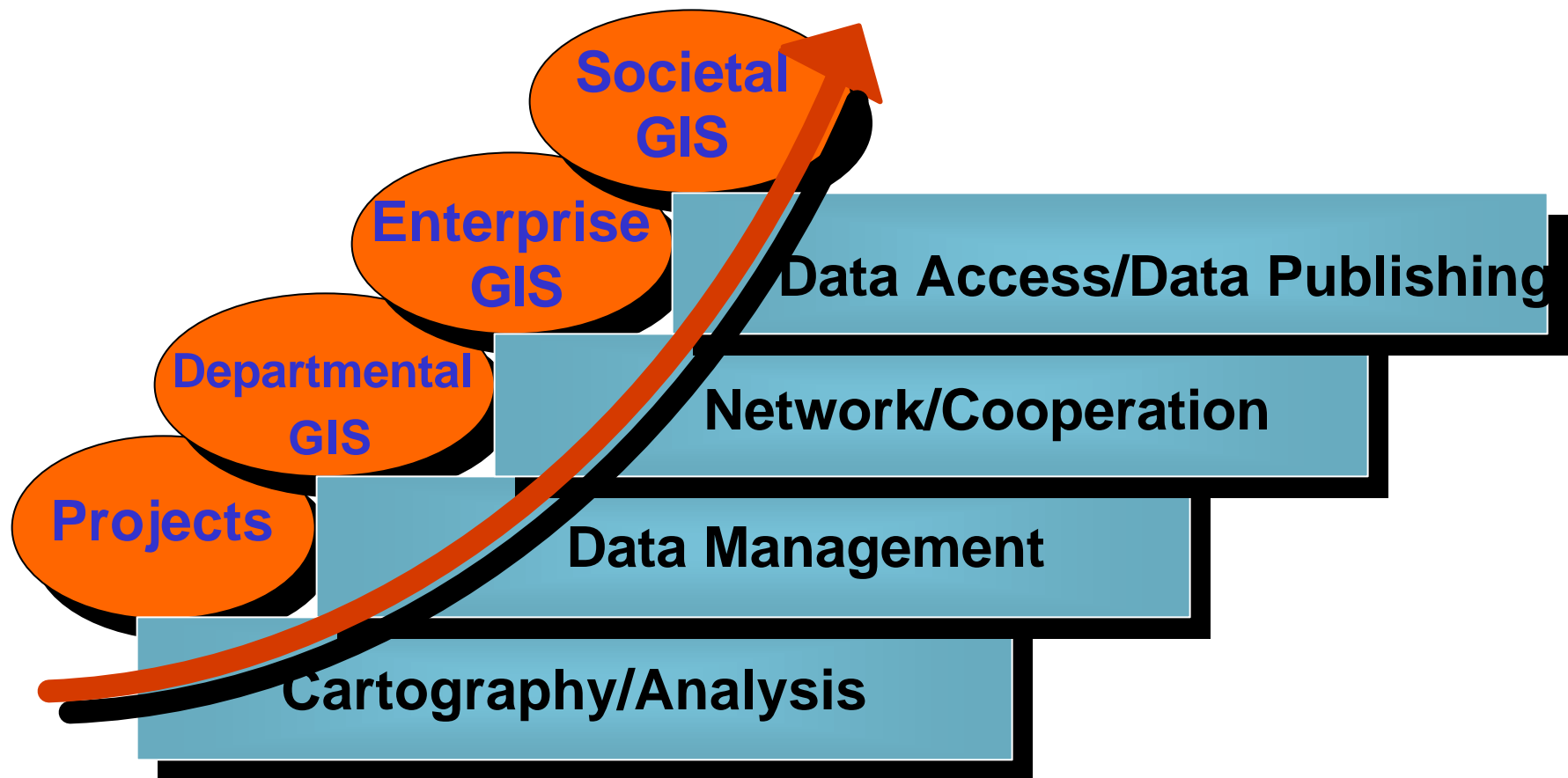
GIS Related Technologies



Geographic Information System



GIS Evolution

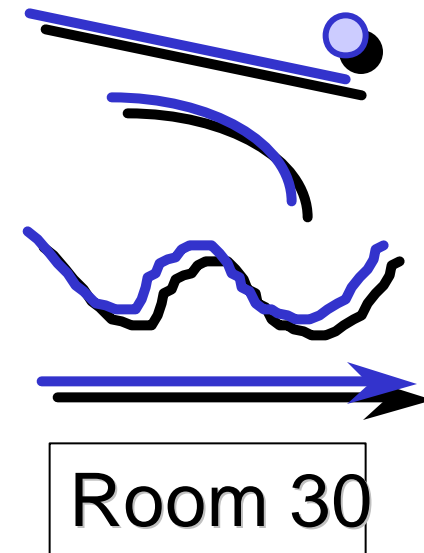


Fundamentally different technologies

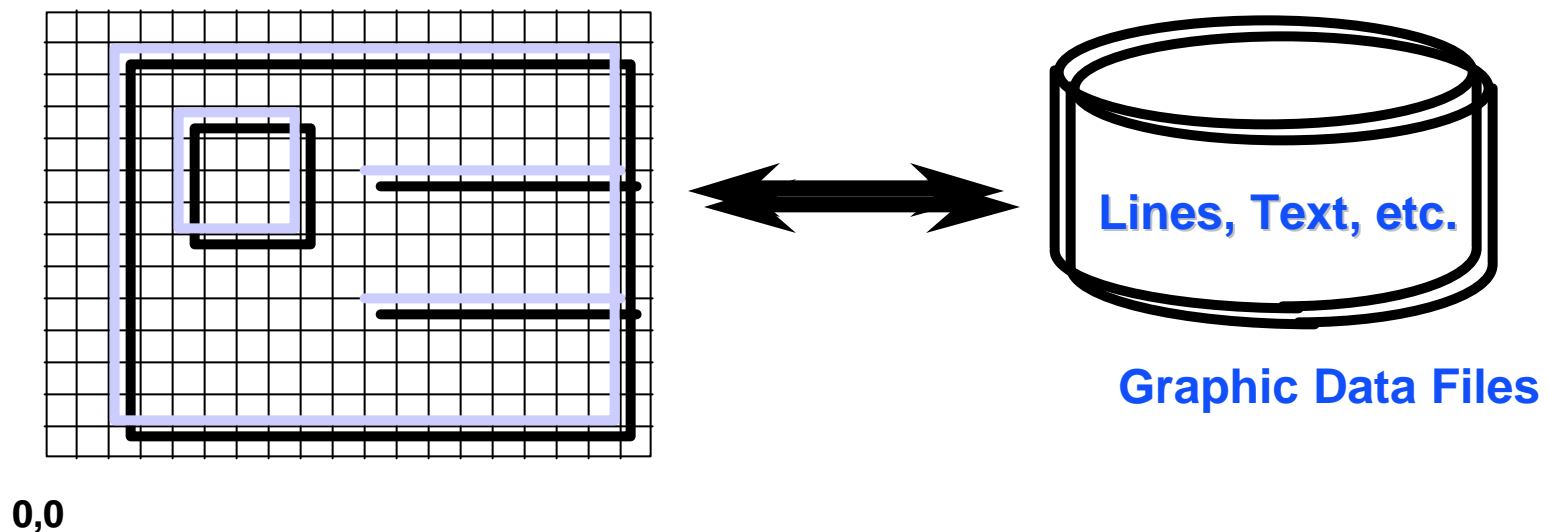
- CADD - technology for symbolically representing features
- GIS - database oriented, analytical methodology for working geographically

CADD Data Elements

- Lines
- Circles and arcs
- Line strings (polylines)
- Symbols (cells/blocks)
- Text
- etc.

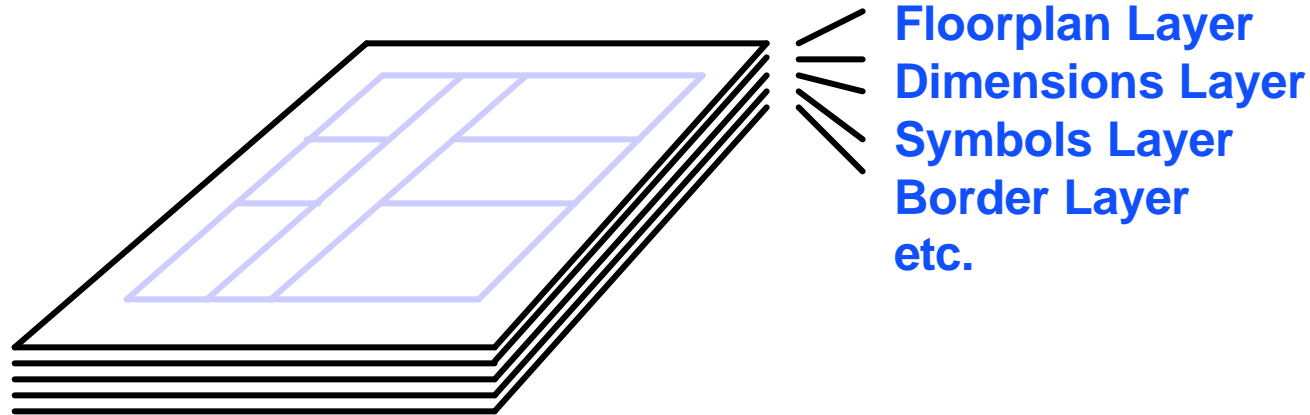


CADD Data Structure



Data referenced to a **Cartesian XYZ** two or three dimensional coordinate system

CADD Data Structure



Data arranged by *layers/levels* and by drawing file.

GIS Data Elements

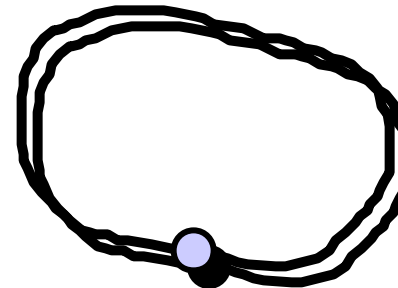
- Nodes / Points



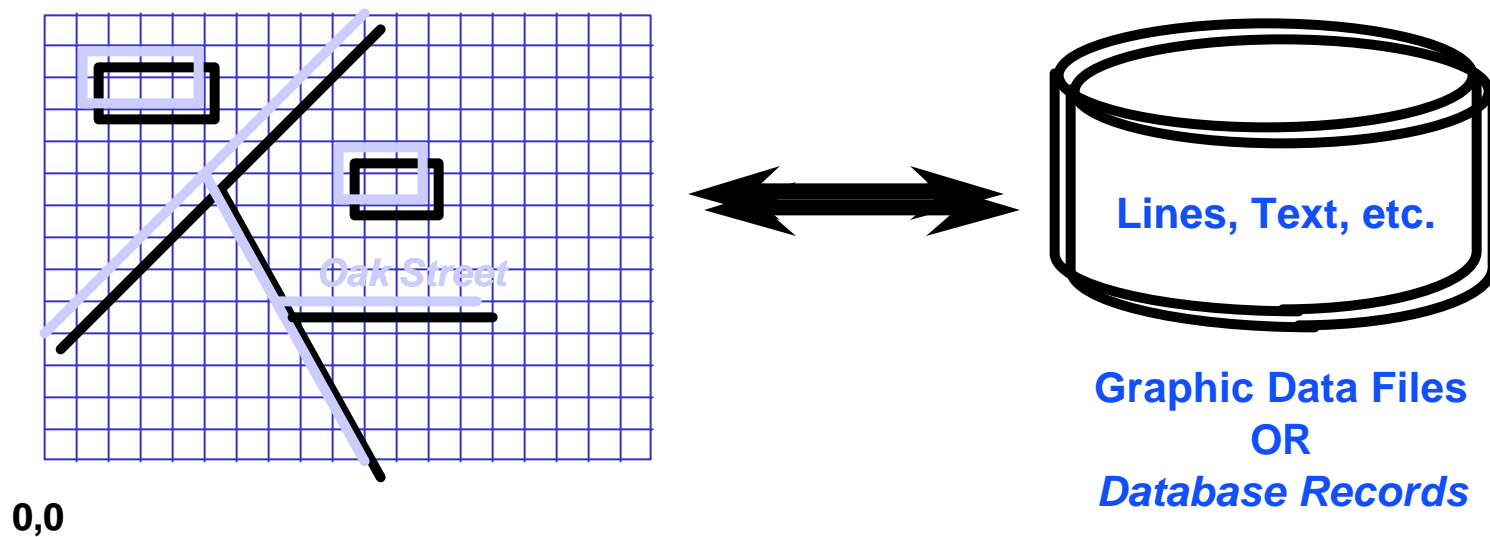
- Lines / Arcs



- Areas /
Polygons

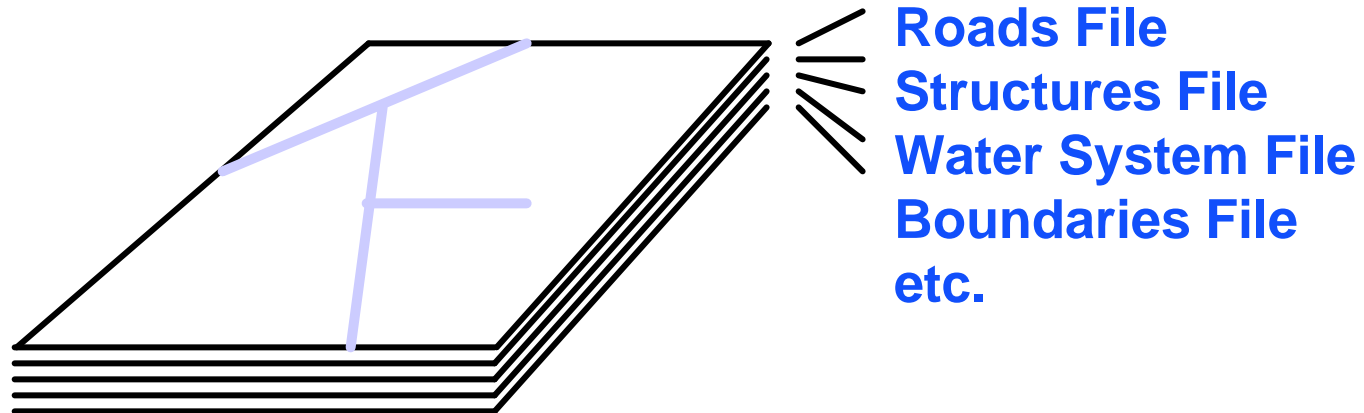


GIS Data Structure



Data referenced to a **Projected XYZ two or three dimensional coordinate system**

GIS Data Structure



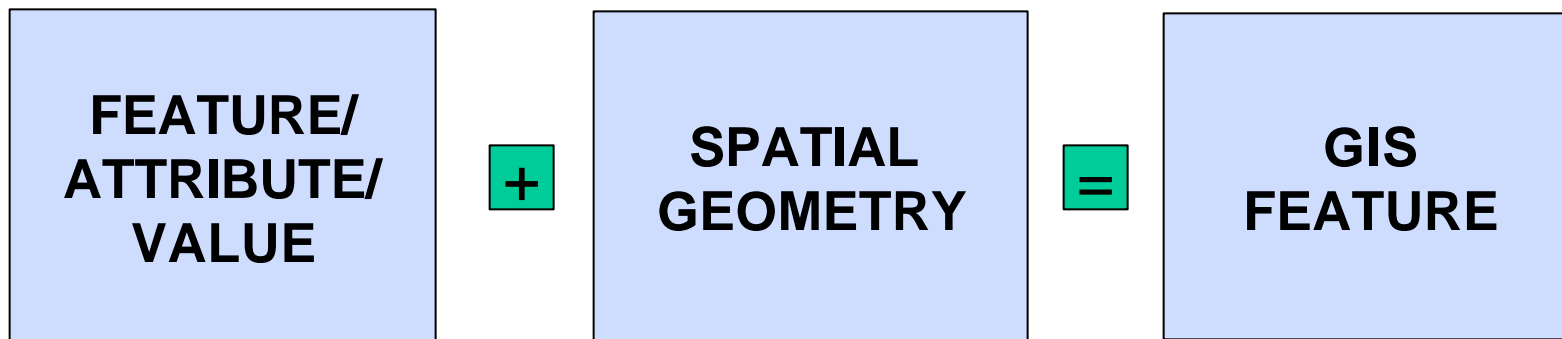
Data arranged by **themes** (map sheet file),
or by **features** (coverage file)

CADD / GIS Differences

- Data model
 - CADD: list of graphic elements described by mathematical parameters or set of parameters
 - GIS: relationships between features in geographic space
- Functions
 - CADD: design, display, and query
 - GIS: adds database, cartography and spatial analysis

GIS Data

The GIS Data should be a collection of Geographic Features

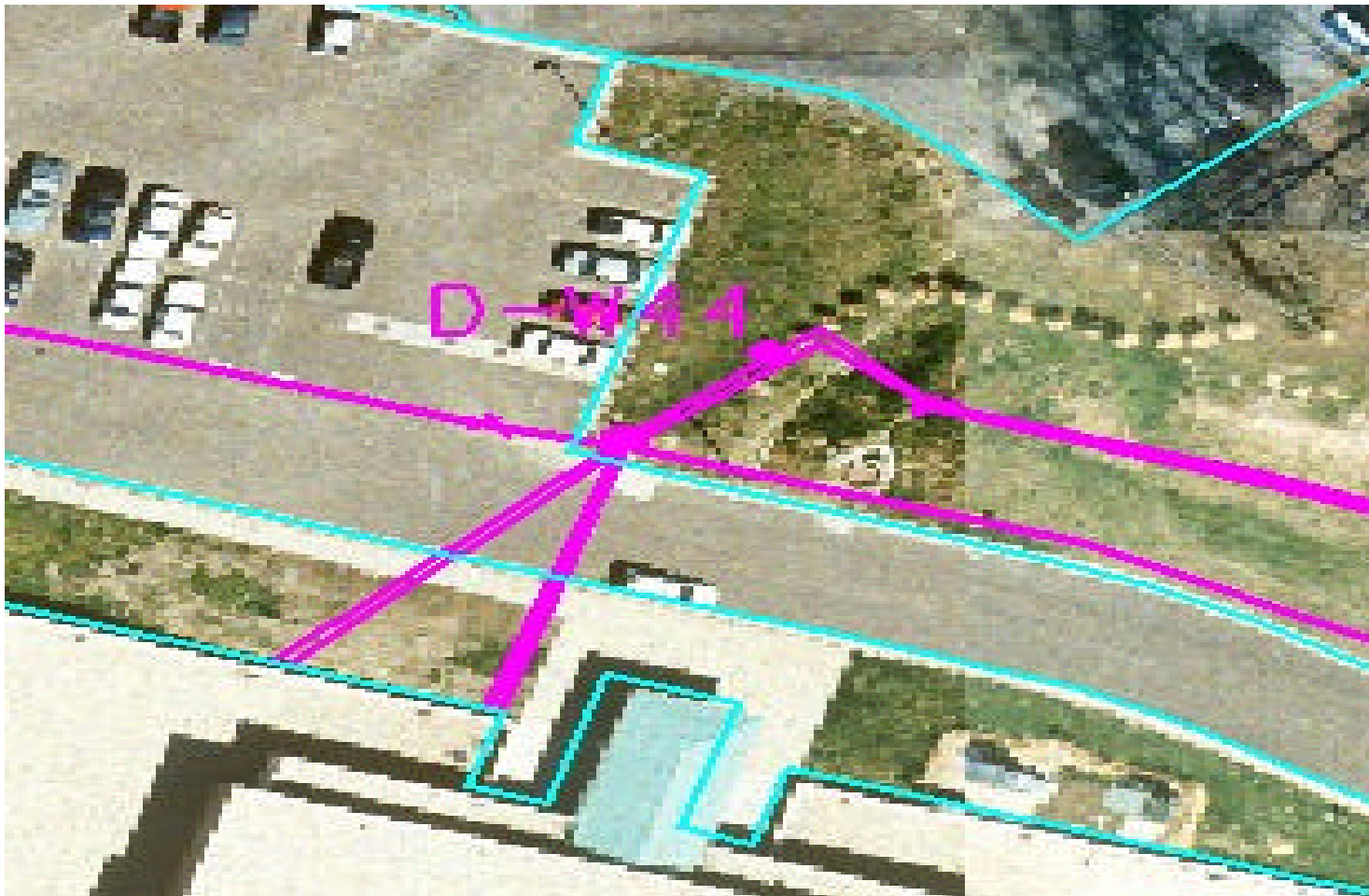


The spatial geometry specification is left to be handled by the GIS and CADD software vendors.

Feature/Attribute/Value

| Microsoft Access - [cdrepar : Table] | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------|------------|----------|------------|----------------|----------|------------|---------|
| | mslink | parcel_id | mapid | address_id | owner_id | section_no | proj_name | tract_no | parea_size | twnshp. |
| | 1000633 | 1000633 | 100039 | 9 | 9 | 29 | Chain of Rocks | b-178 | 5.651223 | 4N |
| | 1000594 | 1000594 | 100039 | 9 | 9 | 29 | Chain of Rocks | b-131 | 7.569156 | 4N |
| | 1000530 | 1000530 | 100039 | 8 | 8 | 6 | Chain of Rocks | a-24 | 4.313801 | 4N |
| | 1000757 | 1000757 | 100039 | 7 | 7 | 14 | Chain of Rocks | a-7 | 10.06117 | 3N |
| | 1001021 | 1001021 | 100039 | 6 | 6 | 30 | Chain of Rocks | b-175 | 0.721636 | 4N |
| | 1000507 | 1000507 | 100039 | 5 | 5 | 22 | Chain of Rocks | a-2 | 1.453892 | 3N |
| | 1000505 | 1000505 | 100039 | 5 | 5 | 22 | Chain of Rocks | a-3 | 37.02981 | 3N |
| | 1000506 | 1000506 | 100039 | 45 | 125 | 22 | Chain of Rocks | a-4 | 3.11477 | 3N |
| | 1000533 | 1000533 | 100039 | 44 | 197 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | a-38 | 46.99532 | 4N |
| | 1000578 | 1000578 | 100039 | 43 | 63 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-112 | 0.572798 | 4N |
| | 1001013 | 1001013 | 100039 | 43 | 55 | | Chain of Rocks | a-84 | 0.513786 | 3N |
| | 1000592 | 1000592 | 100039 | 43 | 56 | 29 | Chain of Rocks | b-126 | 6.314286 | 4N |
| | 1001028 | 1001028 | 100039 | 43 | 56 | 29 | Chain of Rocks | b-177 | 42.95975 | 4N |
| | 1000626 | 1000626 | 100039 | 43 | 57 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-170 | 19.99236 | 4N |
| | 1000586 | 1000586 | 100039 | 43 | 54 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-120 | 0.701553 | 4N |
| | 1000577 | 1000577 | 100039 | 43 | 62 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-111 | 1.713401 | 4N |
| | 1000572 | 1000572 | 100039 | 43 | 61 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-106 | 1.154667 | 4N |
| | 1000560 | 1000560 | 100039 | 43 | 59 | 12 | Chain of Rocks | a-70 | 4.717465 | 3N |
| | 1000584 | 1000584 | 100039 | 43 | 53 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-118 | 1.485571 | 4N |
| | 1000568 | 1000568 | 100039 | 43 | 53 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-102 | 0.410378 | 4N |
| | 1001025 | 1001025 | 100039 | 43 | 52 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-113 | 0.393718 | 4N |
| | 1000604 | 1000604 | 100039 | 43 | 64 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-137 | 0.513597 | 4N |
| | 1001016 | 1001016 | 100039 | 43 | 50 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-168 | 0.216684 | 4N |
| | 1000602 | 1000602 | 100039 | 43 | 166 | 20 | Chain of Rocks | b-135 | 138.1288 | 4N |
| | 1000516 | 1000516 | 100039 | 43 | 49 | 11 | Chain of Rocks | a-10 | 52.56823 | 3N |
| | 1000556 | 1000556 | 100039 | 43 | 49 | 12 | Chain of Rocks | a-64-1 | 16.46245 | 3N |
| | 1000545 | 1000545 | 100039 | 43 | 48 | 12 | Chain of Rocks | a-56 | 4.751908 | 3N |
| | 1000544 | 1000544 | 100039 | 43 | 47 | 12 | Chain of Rocks | a-55 | 3.505314 | 3N |
| | 1000524 | 1000524 | 100039 | 43 | 51 | 1 | Chain of Rocks | a-19 | 49.63012 | 3N |
| | 1000555 | 1000555 | 100039 | 43 | 173 | 12 | Chain of Rocks | a-62 | 11.21107 | 3N |
| | 1000538 | 1000538 | 100039 | 43 | 190 | 2 | Chain of Rocks | a-47 | 1.720721 | 3N |
| | 1001014 | 1001014 | 100039 | 43 | 110 | 31 | Chain of Rocks | b-166 | 0.488053 | 4N |

Spatial Geometry



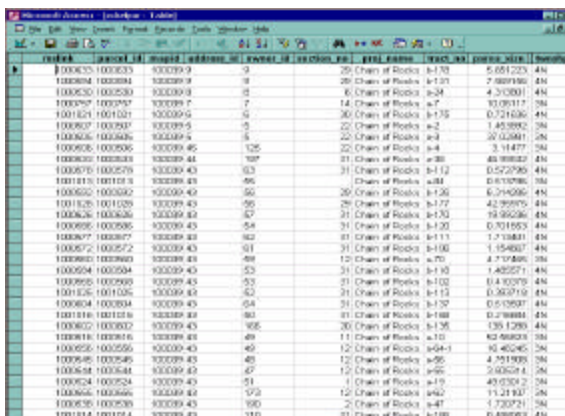
Geospatial Data Set

The Data Set should be a collection of Geospatial Features

FEATURE/
ATTRIBUTE/
VALUE

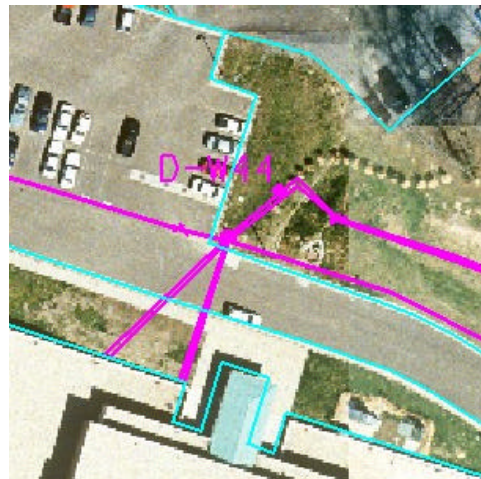
SPATIAL
GEOMETRY

GEOSPATIAL
FEATURE

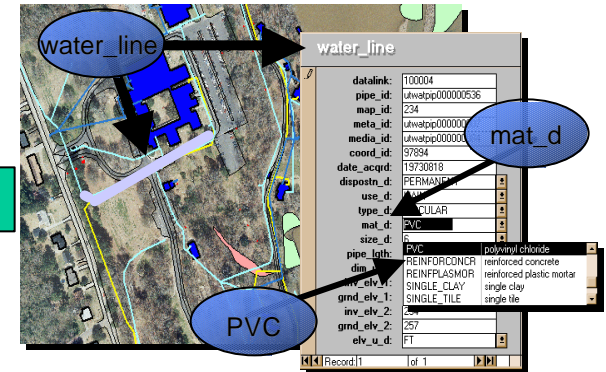


| object_id | object_name | group_id | address_id | number_id | section_id | area | length | volume | elevation |
|-----------|-------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 1000001 | 1000001 | 1000001 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| 1000002 | 1000002 | 1000002 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| 1000003 | 1000003 | 1000003 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| 1000004 | 1000004 | 1000004 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| 1000005 | 1000005 | 1000005 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| 1000006 | 1000006 | 1000006 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| 1000007 | 1000007 | 1000007 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 |
| 1000008 | 1000008 | 1000008 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| 1000009 | 1000009 | 1000009 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 |
| 1000010 | 1000010 | 1000010 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |

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GIS Capabilities

- Location What is at...?
- Condition Where is it...?
- Trend What has changed...?
- Routing Which is the best way...?
- Pattern What is the pattern...?
- Modeling What if...?

GIS Capabilities

- Location What is at...?
- Involves querying a database to determine the types of features that occur at a given place
- Ex. What is the material composition of a specified water line?

GIS Applications

- Condition Where is it...?
- Involves finding the location of sites which have certain characteristics (find the intersection of data sets)
- Ex. Where are unexploded ordnance sites within 200 miles of a road?

GIS Applications

- Trend What has changed...?
- Involves monitoring how things change over time
- Ex. What is the change in the change in land use within 100 yards of the installation's fence line?

GIS Applications

- Pattern What is the pattern...?
- Allows scientists and planners to describe and compare the distribution of phenomena and understand the processes which account for their distribution
- Ex. Is there some pattern in the distribution of diseases which are thought to be caused by mosquitoes?

GIS Applications

- Modeling What if...?
- Allows different models of the world to be evaluated
- Ex. Which areas of the post will be affected by a 200 year flood event?

Data Collection Methods

- Clearinghouses
- Imagery
- Digitizing
- Global Positioning Systems

Emerging Technology



Object Technology

Object Technology is: the set of otherwise diverse programming languages, techniques, tools, environments and methodologies that derive their value from the use of objects.

O-O Programming Languages

Software Developers (e.g., C++, Java)

O-O & O-R Databases

Database Developers (e.g., Oracle 8i, O²)

Object Methodologies -
describing/modeling domain “things”
& their characteristics using a formal
notation

Data Modelers and Domain Experts
(e.g., CASE Tools for UML, Express)

Object Components -
object classes, software
components

Users
(e.g. ESRI ArcInfo 8, Laserscan Gothic,
Smallworld, Graphisoft ArchiCAD, Autodesk
Architectural Desktop 2.0)

Object Characteristics

State (What it knows) -

- state is hidden from user I.e., Encapsulation
- ability to maintain state differentiates objects from set of functions (piece of software code.)
- example: door - locked/unlocked; waterline - functioning/broken

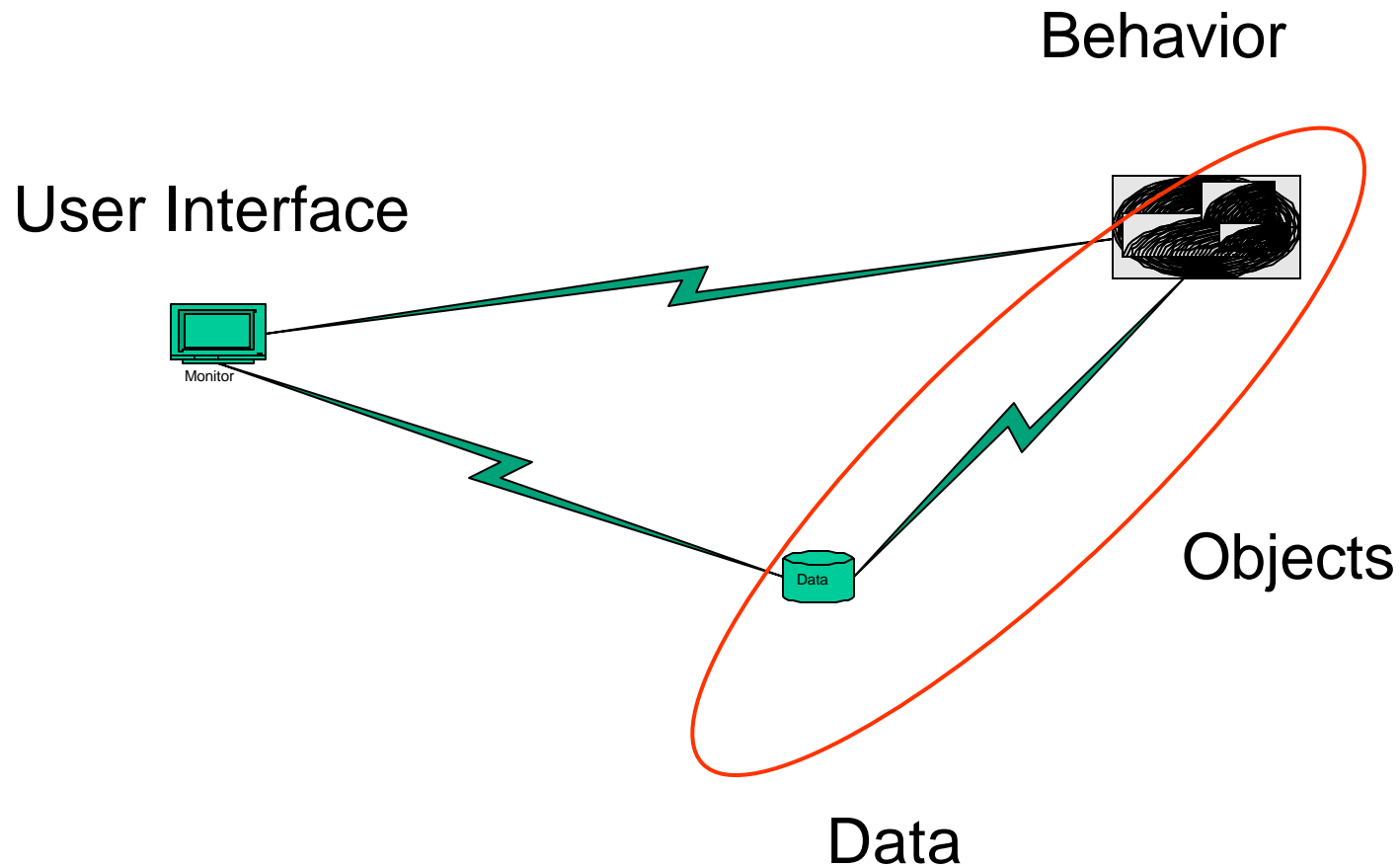
• Behavior (What it can do)

- set of things you can ask it to do
- user/client of object can ask it to perform some behavior(s)
- example: door - swings open/closed; waterline - transports water

• Identity (Which object is it)

- reference & address a specific object
- example: door - ID#221; waterline - key#55342

Components of Software

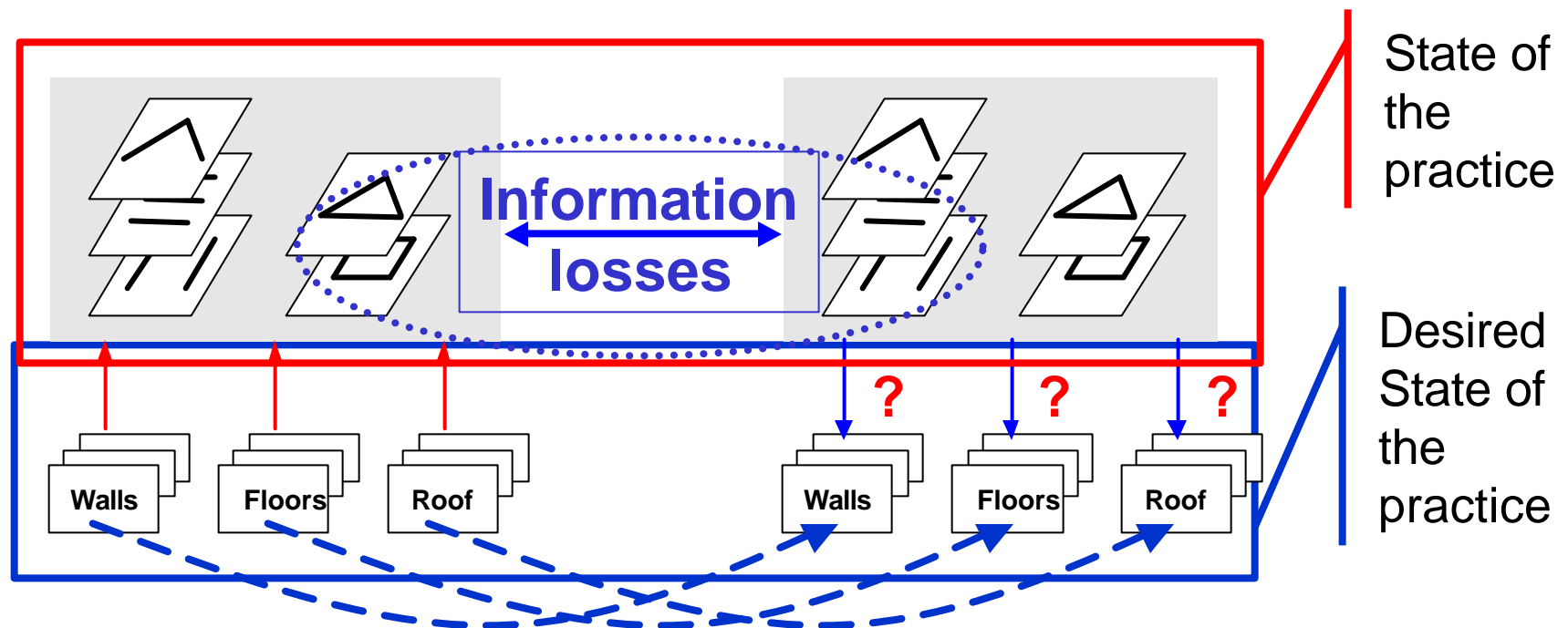


GIS Objects

- GIS application of object technology primarily used today by Utility Co. and other network applications to model facilities (*e.g. gas, water, electric, communications, road networks.*)
- Also see some OO-base GIS use by large national charting agencies for data support feature data capture, update, & maintenance.
- Considerable Object-Based GIS experimentation going on NIMA, TEC, USGS, and elsewhere.
- Benefits of OO-based GIS:
 - easier to capture unique data types & systems/facilities.
 - ability to model real world phenomena as an object with various graphic representations and accompanying attributes (*e.g. various scale topo maps/hydro charts.*)
 - ability to add behaviors to ensure data integrity.

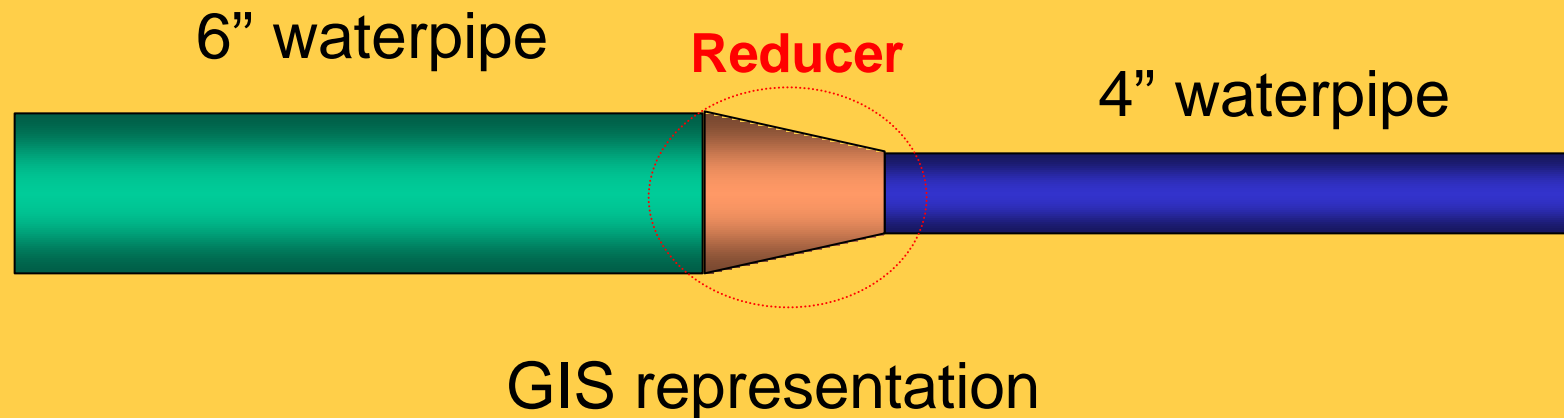
Objects Share Intelligence

- When we exchange only graphics data, we lose knowledge e.g. Architect/Designer/Engineer, ...
- With Objects you begin to include some of this knowledge into the data.



Example Intelligent GIS Object

Waterpipe --includes behavior(s) that specifies what it can connect with (e.g., 6" main can connect to another 6" main or needs a reducer to connect to 4" waterpipe.)



Evolving

- The technology has evolved from paper maps and wooden models to



Evolving

- Real time simulations of the battlefield



**Information is no longer a
staff function but an
operational one. It is
deadly as well as useful**

**Lt. Gen. J. W. Kelly-Air Force
2025 Final Report**



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Questions

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